

TITLE II, PART A FACT SHEET

PURPOSE OF TITLE II, PART A FUNDS

The purpose of the Title II, Part A program is to provide grants to districts in order to increase student academic achievement by improving teacher and principal quality and increasing the number of highly qualified teachers in the classrooms. Based on assessed needs, districts may use the allocated funds to provide professional development, coach and mentor teachers and principals, and assist teachers with becoming highly qualified. Funds may also be used for class-size reduction teachers in scenarios identified in the needs assessment.

SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT

Under the federal “supplement not supplant” requirement, LEAs may use federal funds only to supplement and, to the extent practical, increase the level of funds that would, in the absence of the federal funds, be made available from non-federal sources for the education of participating students. In no case may a school district use federal program funds to supplant—take the place of—funds from non-federal sources.

Funds from NCLB Title programs are to be supplemental in nature.

- *If these funds are **used to provide something that is required by local, state law or policy, or other federal law**, then supplanting occurs and a district may have to pay the funds back to the program if discovered in an audit.*
- *Another way that supplanting happens is if a school system **uses federal funds to pay for something that has previously been paid with local funds**.*

NEEDS ASSESSMENT

*Federal regulations require that every district utilizing Title IIA funds must complete a needs assessment. The purpose of the needs assessment is to determine the needs of the districts teaching force in order to have all students meet the achievement standards. This assessment **must** be the basis for all Title IIA funding decisions. Thus, there must be evidence provided of the links between the identified need (which was based on data) and the allocation of funds. Furthermore, federal law requires measurable goals/objectives so that progress can be objectively measured. The links between needs assessment (prioritized goal), allocation of funds, and measurable goals/objectives must be identifiable.*

ALLOWABLE EXPENDITURES

High quality professional development

- *Providing professional development activities that improve the knowledge of teachers and principals in content knowledge, classroom practices, and effective instructional practices*

Class-size reduction

- *Hiring highly qualified teachers in order to reduce class size, particularly in the early grades*

Retention of highly qualified teachers

- *Developing and implementing initiatives to promote retention of highly qualified teachers and principals, (e.g., teacher mentoring from exemplary teachers and administrators)*

Recruitment of highly qualified teachers

- *Developing and implementing strategies and activities to recruit, hire, and retain highly qualified teachers and principals, (e.g., signing bonuses or differential pay)*